

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 3 and 8 are objected to because of the following informalities: Claims 3 and 8 are identical. The Examiner kindly requests the applicant to cancel either claim 3 or 8. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones et al (7,634,446) in view of Cai et al (7,454,200).

Regarding claim 1, Jones discloses a method for implementing charging in intelligent networks, wherein the method comprises:

configuring an account of a first paid service of an intelligent network as an attached account to an account of a second paid service (col. 2 lines 8-43, 43-67; col. 4, lines 39-65, establishing a prepaid arrangement with second network schemes, thus an account with a different network),

and setting an interface for invoking services and an interface for deducting fees in a service control point for the second paid service (col. 4, lines 39-67-col. 5, lines 1-34, wherein services provided to the user on the second network are deducted on its

account, thus, affecting the balance, thus, deducting fees for usage on the second network);

when the first paid service is to be used by the account of the first paid service, determining whether the account of the first paid service is configured as an attached account to the account of the second paid service (col. 5, lines 1-34, provides determination whether the account is able to be used the second system or network);

when the first paid service has been used by the account of the first paid service, calculating the fee for the use of the first paid service and invoking the interface for deducting fees configured for the second paid service in the service control point to deduct the calculated fee from the account of the second paid service (col. 4, lines 5-67-col. 5, lines 1-34, providing adjustment of the prepaid account balance in accordance to usage of the second service).

Jones does not explicitly suggest invoking the interface for invoking services to authenticate the account of the second paid service in the service control point; if the account of the second paid service is authenticated. However, Cai discloses prepaid services system to allow a user to employ one or more units of wireless services (col. 6, lines 50-65; col. 5, lines 47-67-col. 5, line 1-14, authorizing the user for service usage in different network).

Jones and Cai are analogous art because they are from a similar field of endeavor in providing services to users in different networks with usage of services and providing prepaid services with accounts on both networks. Therefore, it would have obvious to one of skilled in the art at the time of the invention, to modify the teachings of

Jones with authorizing the usage of the second network as taught by Cai in order to provide authorization and efficient charging or billing of usage of the corresponding networks.

Regarding claim 2, the combination discloses claim 1, wherein, the second paid service is a prepaid service (Jones, col. 4, lines 55-65, the networks are dealt with prepaid accounts); and further comprises: setting an interface for applying for money for the second paid service (Jones, col. 5, lines 4-16, the balance of the account is adjusted accordingly), further comprising: invoking the interface for applying for money configured for the second paid service to decide whether an amount of money could be allocated for the use of the first paid service (Jones, col. 4, lines 55-67-col. 5, lines 1-34, decides whether there is sufficient funds for usage of the network with prepaid balance).

Regarding claim 3, the combination discloses claim 1, wherein, the first paid service is a Virtual Private Network service (Jones, Figure 2; col. 5, lines 39-64, shows private networks); and further comprises: setting an interface for returning money for the second paid service (Jones, col. 5, lines 1-34, provides balance for adjustment of fees) and further comprising: invoking the interface for returning money for the second paid service to return to the account of the second paid service the money left after deducting the fee of the first paid service from the amount of money allocated for the first paid service (Jones col. 5, lines 1-34, provide adjustment of accounts based on usage).

Regarding claim 4, the combination discloses claim 1, wherein the second paid service is a postpaid service (Jones, col. 4, lines 55-67-col. 5, line s1-34, provides prepaid or postpaid accounts for usage).

Regarding claim 5, the combination discloses claim 1, wherein the second paid service is a service provided with preferential charging rates (Jones, lines 38-54, with discount rates).

Regarding claim 6, the combination discloses claim 1, wherein, configuring an account of a first paid service as an attached account to an account of a second paid service, comprises: modifying the service information identity of the account of the first paid service (Jones, col. 2 lines 8-43, 43-67; col. 4, lines 39-65, establishing a prepaid arrangement with second network schemes, thus an account with a different network); and determining whether the account of the first paid service is configured as an attached account to an account of the second paid service (Jones, col. 4, lines 39-67-col. 5, lines 1-34, wherein services provided to the user on the second network are deducted on its account, thus, affecting the balance, thus, deducting fees for usage on the second network) in Step b, comprises: according to the service information identity of the account of the first paid service, deciding whether the account of the first paid service is configured as an attached account to an account of the second paid service (Jones, col. 5, lines 1-34, provides determination whether the account is able to be used the second system or network).

Regarding claim 7, the combination discloses claim 1, wherein the second paid service is a prepaid service in a Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) network and the

first paid service is a prepaid service in a Global System for Mobile communications (GSM) network (Jones, Figure 2; col. 5, lines 38-67-col. 6, lines 1-13, provide prepaid services in GSM and CDMA networks).

Claim 8 contains subject matter similar to claim 3, and thus, is rejected under similar rationale. Claims 3 and claim 8 are identical.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JULIO PEREZ whose telephone number is (571)272-7846. The examiner can normally be reached on 10-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, PATRICK EDOUARD can be reached on (571)272-7603. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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3/25/2010

/J. P./
Examiner, Art Unit 2617

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